

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR
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Sue Ellspermann
LT. GOVERNOR

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Lt. Governor Ellspermann to Present at Biofuels Hearing
ISDA Director Ted McKinney and Indiana delegation join Lt. Governor at Midwest meeting

INDIANAPOLIS – Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann and Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Ted McKinney today led an Indiana delegation to address the importance of renewable fuels as part of a comprehensive energy plan at the “Hearing in the Heartland: Supporting the Renewable Fuels Standard” hosted by Iowa Governor Terry Branstad. A number of senior state officials from the Midwest are meeting in Des Moines to testify about the changes in the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) proposed by the Obama Administration.

Indiana Governor Mike Pence also sent a letter to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy today requesting Federal officials to reject the proposed action (*letter attached*).

“Since 2007, the RFS and biofuels have been critically important to the success of Hoosier farmers and have been an economic lifeline to rural communities who need this investment and the jobs more than ever,” Ellspermann said. “Indiana is producing more corn and soy than ever in the State’s history – and we will continue to be among the nation’s leaders in production. It is our hope that the EPA will implement a sound RFS that puts our nation’s grain to good work.”

Members of the Indiana delegation are

- Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann
- Ted McKinney, Director, Indiana State Department of Agriculture
- Kyle Cline, Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc.
- Mike Shuter, Farmer and representative of the Indiana Corn Growers Association
- Dave Lyons, Louis Dreyfus Commodities LLC
- Tim Phelps, Ethanol Producers Association
- Bruce Hosier, Randolph Economic Development Corporation and former Mayor of Portland, IN

“The recent proposal from the EPA lowering the minimum requirements for the RFS will undermine our nation’s efforts to develop energy independence and strengthen our economy,” McKinney said. “Along with Lt. Gov. Ellspermann, I am urging the USDA and EPA to exercise

their authority and halt the enactment of the RFS proposal until it can be more thoroughly analyzed. The production of biofuels throughout the United States is a crucial issue not only to those in agriculture, but to all concerned with building a renewable energy portfolio and a stronger economy.”

The Renewable Fuel Standard, or RFS, was established in 2005 and later updated in 2007 to ensure a minimum level of renewable energy was produced and mixed with the US fuel supply. In November 2013, the Environment Protection Agency announced a proposal which would reduce the level the RFS for 2014 to 13.01 billion gallons of ethanol and 2.2 billion gallons of advanced biofuels – a 16% decrease of what was originally mandated under the Renewable Fuels Law that passed Congress in 2007.

The event will be held at the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates (100 Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309) and begin at 8:30 AM, Central Standard Time.

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